



NEANDERTAL

When fossil bones were found in 1856 in a cave, a most violent rejection of the notion that humans had evolved from more primitive men ensued and a serious controversy abounded.

Disputes continued until recent discoveries convinced researchers of fossil man's existence. Neandertals lived in Europe from approximately 105,000 to 30,000 years ago. They are not our direct ancestors, although aspects of their behavior resemble modern humans.

This exhibit explores our knowledge of Neandertals. The subject areas range from their discovery, immediate ancestors, anatomy, daily habits and technology, to their replacement by modern man and current scientific study and research results.

Original watercolor artwork
Quaiti State of Aden

Exhibit Plan and Chapter Descriptions

1. Prehistoric Man Uncovered : Early Discovery, Recognition, Origin Theories
2. Ancestors and Forms : Pre-Neandertals, Tautavel, Steinheimensis, Physical Characteristics
3. Population Distribution : Germany, Gibraltar, France, Italy, Croatia, Israel, Uzbekistan
4. Technology for Survival : Stone Implements, Clothing and Shelter
5. Social Behavior : Hunting, 'Bear Cult', Medicine, Fire and Burial
6. Scientific Investigation : Researchers and Museums, Research Results

Items presenting difficulty of acquisition are matted with dark red